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003/011

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Application No. 09/538,483
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Cancelled).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~The An apparatus according to claim 1~~ generating a multicolor image indicated by image data by overlapping monochrome images of different colors according to the image data, comprising:

an amendment unit generating amended signals, one amended signal for each of the different colors, wherein each amended signal is amended based on information in the image data about the monochrome image for one of the different colors and information in the image data about the monochrome image of another of the different colors; and

an image generation unit generating the multicolor image by generating the monochrome images according to the amended signals, and overlapping the monochrome images,

wherein said amendment unit amends the signal based on a correspondence in color and arrangement between pixels forming the multicolor image indicated by the image data.

Page 2 of 10

PAGE 3/11 * RCVD AT 7/14/2005 4:05:40 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFAX-1/32 * DNIS:2737466 * CSID:202 822 1111 * DURATION (mm-ss):02-50

PAGE 3/11 * RCVD AT 8/5/2005 6:58:40 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFAX-6/24 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:703 308 5397 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-28

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07/14/2005 15:08 FAX 202 822 1111

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Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said amendment unit amends the signal such that the arrangement of pixels forming the monochrome image can be changed.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an extraction unit extracting partial image data indicating a part of an image indicated by the image data from the image data, wherein said amendment unit amends the signal according to the information contained in the partial image data.

Claim 5 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said extraction unit extracts the partial image data containing a pixel forming a monochrome image generated by said image generation unit and pixels around the pixel.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a selection unit selecting a signal for use by said image generation unit in generating the monochrome image about each color from among the amended signals.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a monochrome image forming part of the multicolor image can be a black monochrome image, and

07/14/2005 15:08 FAX 202 822 1111

WESTERN HATTORI

005/011

Application No. 09/538,483
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

said apparatus further comprises a generation unit generating a signal for generation of the black monochrome image from a signal for generation of a monochrome image of another color amended by said amendment unit.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An apparatus generating a multicolor image indicated by image data by overlapping monochrome images of different colors according to the image data, comprising:

amendment means for generating amended signals, one amended signal for each of the different colors, wherein each amended signal is amended based on information in the image data about the monochrome image for one of the different colors and information in the image data about the monochrome image of another of the different colors; and

image generation means for generating the multicolor image by generating the monochrome images according to the amended signals, and overlapping the monochrome images,

wherein said amendment means amends the signal based on a correspondence in color and arrangement between pixels forming the multicolor image indicated by the image data.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An apparatus generating a multicolor image indicated by image data by overlapping monochrome images of different colors according to the image data, comprising:

07/14/2005 15:08 FAX 202 822 1111

WESTERMAN HATTORI

008/011

Application No. 09/538,483
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

an amendment unit amending a signal for generation of a monochrome image according to information about the monochrome image contained in the image data; and

a correction unit correcting the signal amended by said amendment unit according to an amendment result of a signal for generation of a monochrome image of another color,

wherein said correction unit corrects the signal based on a correspondence in color and arrangement between pixels forming a multicolor image generated according to the signal amended by said amendment unit.

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein

said amendment unit is provided for each signal for generation of a monochrome image of a different color forming part of the multicolor image, and each amendment unit amends the signal according to the same rule.

Claim 12 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein

said amendment unit amends the signal such that the arrangement of pixels forming the monochrome image can be changed.

07/14/2005 15:08 FAX 202 822 1111

WESTERMAN HATTORI

007/011

Application No. 09/538,483
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Claim 13 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein
said correction unit corrects the signal amended by said amendment unit back to an
unamended signal.

Claim 14 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising
an extraction unit extracting partial image data indicating a part of an image indicated by
the image data from the image data, wherein
said amendment unit amends the signal according to the information contained in the
partial image data.

Claim 15 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein
said extraction unit extracts the partial image data containing a pixel forming a
monochrome image generated by the apparatus and pixels around the pixel.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising
a selection unit selecting a signal for generation of a monochrome image of each color by
the apparatus from among signals corrected by said correction unit.

Claim 17 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein
a monochrome image forming part of the multicolor image can be a black monochrome
image, and

07/14/2005 15:08 FAX 202 822 1111

WESTERN HATTORI

008/011

Application No. 09/538,483
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

said apparatus further comprises a generation unit generating a signal for generation of the black monochrome image from a signal for generation of a monochrome image of another color corrected by said correction unit.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): An apparatus generating a multicolor image indicated by image data by overlapping monochrome images of different colors according to the image data, comprising:

amendment means for amending a signal for generation of a monochrome image according to information about the monochrome image contained in the image data; and

correction means for correcting the signal amended by said amendment means according to an amendment result of a signal for generation of a monochrome image of another color,

wherein said correction means corrects the signal based on a correspondence in color and arrangement between pixels forming a multicolor image generated according to the signal amended by said amendment means.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A method of generating a multicolor image indicated by image data by overlapping monochrome images of different colors according to the image data, comprising:

generating amended signals, one amended signal for each of the different colors, wherein each amended signal is amended based on information in the image data about the monochrome

07/14/2005 15:08 FAX 202 822 1111

WESTERN HATTORI

009/011

Application No. 09/538,483
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

image for one of the different colors and information in the image data about the monochrome image of another of the different colors; and

generating the multicolor image by generating the monochrome images according to the amended signals, and overlapping the monochrome images,

wherein the signal is amended based on a correspondence in color and arrangement between pixels forming the multicolor image indicated by the image data.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A method of generating a multicolor image indicated by image data by overlapping monochrome images of different colors according to the image data, comprising:

amending a signal for generation of a monochrome image according to information about the monochrome image contained in the image data;

correcting the amended signal according to an amendment result of a signal for generation of a monochrome image of another color to produce corrected signals; and

generating the multicolor image by generating the monochrome images according to the corrected signals, and overlapping the monochrome images,

wherein the correction of the signal is based on a correspondence in color and arrangement between pixels forming a multicolor image generated according to the amended signal.

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